THE

NEWPORT MERCURY.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1793. [N° 1648.]

NEWPORT: (Rhode-Island) Published by HENRY BARBER, near the State-House.

Mr. BARBER,

I send you enclosed a Philadelphia paper, published a few weeks since, and request you would insert therefrom the piece under the signature of Atticus, *addressed to the Minister of France—The sentiments contained in it, I am confident, are those of a large majority of the inhabitants of the United States. Your compliance will oblige*

Nov. 12. PYRODES.

TO THE SIEUR GENET,

MINISTER OF FRANCE.

CLOATHED with a diplomatic character, and received, by the first functionary of the United States, as the accredited Minister from a great nation, you feel, sir, an office to which the policy of the American republic, religiously observant of the universal law of nations, ensures eminent immunity. Regarding you in this high character, a republican now claims to address you.

To announce, in this address, the name by which I am personally known, might be arraigned as ostentatious—neither is it required by the usages of the American press. But the man of honor, sir, disdains to communicate through the press what he would not avow at the command of propriety. And, although ideas of delicacy may now advise me to conceal my name even from the printer; I spurn the idea of shrinking from the charge should justice and honor forbid such concealment. Yet, while my language does not offend against the principles of liberality, I trust that I may fairly claim to be the sole depository of my own secret.

Deriving no personal emolument from the fiscal system of the United States, and holding no office under their national government, I am not the dependant of any of the chiefs of departments, and living in a land of liberty, I disdain to be the slave of party. A plain man, I speak in the *character of one of the people*. Conscious that the sovereignty of the United States resides in the people, and that the authority of their government is an emanation from their will. I purpose neither to disregard the dignity of your representative office, nor to violate the decorum that becomes the character which I now peculiate before an enlightened public.

That you are not deficient of talent, is obvious from communications which the press has submitted to the public eye. That you have been unfortunate since your arrival in America, is probable from the same communications. And God forbid, sir, that any part of the American people should, for this cause, offer you indignity!

You have been indeed unfortunate, if, erring through ignorance, and not from intention, you have prejudiced the cause which duty and disposition urged you to benefit. And to prevent your being thus beguiled by error, is not inconsistent with the principles of real friendship.

That you should err in your ideas of the American public, is a misfortune, against which an extensive acquaintance with the history of departed empires, or with the actual state of society in Europe, could not alone, completely secure you. In the United States, sir, the human character has assumed a form superior to whatever authentic history has recorded of Greece, or Rome; countries in which ferocious manners characterized a rigid aristocracy and profligate populace, who struggled for domination, and alternately outraged the law of moral order: And to convince you that the speaker's opinion is consonant to that of a philosopher whose talents ought to command your respect, I refer you to Jefferson's "notes on Virginia." The feudal despotisms of Europe, in which hereditary usurpation has emasculated the energies of mind and yet reigns over sycophants and slaves, are strangers to that force of character which resides in the citizens of America.—And the French ardour for liberty yet wants that temperature of mind which characterises the republicans of the new world.

Feeling in the cause of liberty that ardor of spirit which distinguishes your nation, and arriving among a people whose love of liberty is the strongest sentiment of their soul, you seem, sir, to have been ignorant, how much the American passion for liberty is under the discipline of an exalted reason. The American passion for liberty is not the Roman pride of domination; a criminal pride, that claims liberty for one nation, and denies it to a conquered world. No! The American citizens are friends to the cause of universal liberty, which, in their estimation, is inseparable from the equitable empire of law. And the adherence to that liberal order which the law of republicanism prescribes is estimated, by them, as being friendly to virtue, and requisite to the good of universal society.—Glorying in republican principles, persuaded that all the tyrannical thrones of Europe must ere long fall before the united forces of philosophy and liberty, they proudly claim for themselves that national independence which they acknowledge to be the right of all the nations of the globe. And, while they exult in the hope of the universal funeral of monarchy, they recognize, within the circle of their own empire, no sovereign but themselves.

The first functionary of this sovereign, sir, is that veteran patriot, WASHINGTON. To him is unanimously confided the helm of empire. Yet, if he is guilty of violating that constitution, which clothes him with the executive power, and prescribes the rule of his duty; if he is faithless to that high trust, to which he has sworn to be faithful—do I injure you thou first citizen of America, by supposing an impossibility?—If I say, even Washington is thus guilty, he knows, and we all know, that he is constitutionally responsible. But, as to this point, the people of the United States want no foreign interference; and our fair swords will never permit him, or any other man, in this country, to be arbitrarily accused, arraigned, and ordered to death, by a tyrant who bears the name of National Convention. As the only sovereign, the people know that the legitimate power of their constituted authorities essentially emanates from their will, which is announced in the constitution. And sir, as they have provided for the constitutional punishment of their highest officer, if guilty of high crimes and misdemeanors, they, on the other hand, as men of honour, feel themselves pledged to support him in the performance of his constitutional functions; and, as men who are not dastards, they must and will thus support him. As to the constitutionality of the measures which the President has adopted, relative to France, and her enemies, I see no cause to charge him with having misconducted. No man, I am confident, who has correctly developed the principles of universal law, if he will honestly speak his opinion, will say, that the President's Proclamation was unconstitutional. The book of universal nature, being a *chef d'œuvre*, is the only work which the American people recognize as being indisputable authority in all political questions. And I presume, that, after fully consulting this authority, you would not be able to prove from it that the President has misconducted as to France. Except that I am not an orator as you are, and if a man who never had an office at Versailles, and who in the simplicity of nature speaks right on, were adequate to maintain an argument against the Minister Plenipotentiary of France, I should hope, were it proper and necessary, to be able specifically to maintain the present sentiments even against yourself.

The measures of the President being constitutional, his enlightened fellow-citizens, as men of principle, would support him, had he never been the Chief of their patriot army. Independently of their attachment to the first of Generals, their personal and public honour is, by the very principles of the social compact pledged to support their own officer in executing the service which their country has assigned him. And they know that the principles of political arrangement and national prosperity prescribe the establishment of public authorities, as being requisite to the beneficial administration of their common affairs, as essential to their capacity of acting in concert, and as indispensably necessary to the maintenance of their own independent sovereignty.

Sir, the sovereign of the United States *acts* by constituted representatives, and not otherwise. This sovereign, as such, simply *wills*: And it is done.

On mature deliberation, the American sovereign in adopting a general constitution for the empire, has determined not to have "any direct correspondence" with foreign powers. And the President, as the organ of the American nation, immediately represents the whole people for the purposes of national intercourse. Their sovereign will, as manifested in the national constitution, has pronounced, that it is neither wise nor beneficial to admit any application from foreign States, except thro' the organ of the executive. Their general plan of policy being delineated in the constitutional chart, its specific execution is committed to the respective authorities, who are the constituted organs of the sovereign in the business of administration. The American sovereign, sir, has such a sense of his own character, that he disdains the idea of being personally called upon, to act in questions that merely concern the actual administration of affairs.

The principles of liberty forbid the sovereign, who *wills*, to also *act*. Philosophy forbids it—National dignity and justice, forbid it—The necessary principles of republicanism forbid it—And, notwithstanding the example of the French National Convention, it is not in the power of the collected talents of all Europe, to make the enlightened sovereign of America guilty of thus outraging the principles of liberty, philosophy, dignity, justice, republicanism. We refuse to negociate except through the agency of our executive; not because we fear the President as our master, for he has no such character, and we have no such fear; nor because we are such idiots or cowards as to think the power of government superior to our own, for we know that the power of government is derived from our delegation; but we refuse any other mode of national negociation, because we judge this mode to be the wisest, best, just—and, especially and above all, because such is our sovereign will. And should the maintenance of this will require the sword of the people, you and all mankind may be assured, that it must not, will not, and shall not sleep in the scabbard.

Such, sir, are sentiments which the American people hold forth to nations. And, from these sentiments, the French ought not to desire or expect America to depart, although her sovereignty should be invaded by all the powers of Europe, followed by the rest of the world, like hell with blackest insurrection, at their heels.

Judge then, sir, what must be the sentiments of Americans, on examining the published letter which you have recently addressed to the chosen representative of the whole American nation! A plain man as I am, expect not that I should speak on this subject with that sublime and impassioned eloquence, which has been cultivated in France more than in any other modern nation! Therefore, permit me to speak plainly, and freely, as I feel, and because I feel! without undertaking, however, to pronounce a panegyric on myself, a business at which Americans are not expert, I leave it to others, to estimate whether I evince any portion of "the energy and frankness which ever characterize a true republican."

Unfortunate indeed may you be deemed, if you have been led, from any cause whatever, to indulge the visionary idea of a separation between the President, and the people of America. And yet, sir, you appear, from your own words, to have indulged this idea. For if, since your being in America, the federal government has offended against the views of the people, and against their principles of honest faith, as to France, the President is at the head and front of the offending. Would you, by publishing the late official communications relative to this subject, be understood to charge him, sir, with being unfriendly to the cause of Liberty?—With wishing to be the Sultan?—With a design, by his construction of treaties, to aid the league of Powers against France? Or would you be understood to charge him with fearing the power of Britain, or any other nation, and with pusillanimously deserting the character of America? He has been proved, sir, not only in the calm hour of peace, but amidst the storms of war.—And no inconsiderable part of his countrymen have been proved by his side. Yet, if you think the young Americans, who have never tried "the flinty and steel couch of war," are dastards; and if you would know how the fact is; if too you think that such conduct, on your part, will promote the objects of your mission; let their fathers be insulted! you may then know, whether the sons are dastards.

Do you then mean to publicly charge the President with violating the obligations of our national faith? To him, to you, to us, the charge is seriously interesting.

Have not our judicial officers, by their opinions, sanctioned his interpretation of existing treaties? And are not the judges the constitutional expositors of all our laws of every description? And are not treaties part of the law of the land? After our judges have expounded the law, do we recognize, as relative to our own conduct, any ulterior tribunal of adjudication? And do you imagine, that any foreigner whatever shall, within the circle of our empire, be eventually permitted to act, in any case whatever, in opposition to such interpretation? Do you deem it advisable to appeal, on a national question, from our constituted authorities, whose decisions we acknowledge to be obligatory on ourselves, to us who have constituted those authorities? The procedure, sir, would not accord with the established order of things in this country. But if, while sustaining the character of minister plenipotentiary, you choose to avail yourself of that general liberty which every person has of publicly stating whatever any printer will publish, there is no law in the United States which can, in the first instance, prevent the thus calling upon the American people to judge of the conduct of the President. But such a mode of procedure, in a question between our nation and a foreign power, being of the nature of a "direct correspondence" with the sovereign, is not conceived by the people, "to be within the line of propriety or duty." Our sacred regard, however, to the liberty of the press, renders the procedure practicable. And if a foreign minister should, before the tribunal of public opinion, thus impeach our highest officer of disloyalty to his sovereign, that sovereign will indeed decide on the merits of the appeal, and with a spirit worthy of an enlightened Sovereign. If the officer has been guilty of befriending tyranny, guilty of violating his official duty and our plighted faith by sacrificing the honest interests of our friends to those of their enemies, we must and will be satisfied.——If our national integrity be appealed to, and national justice is publicly demanded against Washington, by our honest swords we declare, that, if constitutionally proved guilty, he shall be punished.—Although he has grown grey in the service of his country, yet we have the firmness to steel our hearts, for the moment, and to dare be just even against him. But by the same swords, which we hope will never have cause to blush for their owners, we further declare, that the Foreign Minister, who thus severely invokes our justice, makes an experiment upon us, which he must never repeat:——For, on this subject, no foreign power shall use us for sport. And, if you have ever once thought of adopting such a measure, let me, if you are pausing on the banks of the Rubicon, request you to consider its consequences.——In case of its adoption, yourself or Washington, must be condemned. Should you demand of us to sit, in solemn judgment, on the man who commands our united hearts, you must in the event, seal either his, or your, political damnation! Should you publicly appear Washington of national disloyalty, be sure you furnish damning proofs against him! Be sure, you prove him false to his trust! Or, by the wrath of injured friendship, * * * * * * * *

Sir, you have been received as minister plenipotentiary from a nation whose friendship we value, and purpose to deserve. Yet, as proud as delicate on the subject of friendship, the American mind can feel the implications contained in your letter to the President of the United States. Then, sir, if you would not alienate the mind of America, forbear, on this theme, the language of reproach! Goad not the spirit of Americans, by accusing their common representative and friend of cold indifference to the cause of liberty, nor charge him with want of fidelity to their public engagements! It is the pride of the American nation, sir, to observe its treaties of commercial amity, and yet be just to every nation, under heaven: Its firmness too is equal to its order.

If you value the American estimation of the French, it is hoped, that you will never, in future, mention the disinterested friendship of France to this country in the very same sentence in which you complain that the American government has not, by way of requital manifested a regard for your interest: for, except in relation to the ruder part of mankind, such as are to the westward of the Allegany, it is not the American talk on to *talk of gifts* which are *to be paid for*.

It is further mentioned, for your reflection, that the American researches have not yet discovered, in any of

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If you value the American estimation of the French, it is hoped, that you will never, in future, mention the disinterested friendship of France to this country in the very same sentence in which you complain that the American government has not, by way of requital manifested a regard for your interest: for, except in relation to the ruder part of mankind, such as are to the westward of the Allegany, it is not the American talk on to *talk of gifts* which are *to be paid for*.

It is further mentioned, for your reflection, that the American researches have not yet discovered, in any of

regions of science, that the obligations of gratitude are perfectly compultory like those of justice. Nor has moral philosophy as yet taught them, that it is a proof of delicate generosity to speak of measures under the professed idea of being generous, and yet, at the same time demand a specific retribution. It is presumed, that the humane Americans, who never inquired whether any of the unfortunate fugitives from one of the French islands were called aristocrats, but at once honored themselves and their country by their generous beneficence to them all, will never give cause *to doubt the professed motives* of their conduct, by urging their generosity as the basis of a legal demand. This, however, is a subject, sir, on which I leave you to *feel* sentiments which wounded delicacy cannot easily express.

ALFRED.

[*Inserted by Request.*]

From the (Boston) INDEPENDENT CHRONICLE.

Messrs. ADAMS & LARKIN,

THE situation of this Country with respect to France, is brought to a serious point. The unhappy disputes which have taken place between the Minister and our Executive, it is to be feared may be attended with disagreeable consequences. The friendship of the President towards the French Republic cannot be doubted; but it is evident, that certain individuals, who cannot be considered friendly either to this Country or France, have been busily employed to make every unpleasant difficulty. They have endeavoured to aggravate every trifling transaction that has taken place, and to irritate the Minister by giving the worst construction to all his conduct. The circumstance of his saying, he would "*Appeal to the People*," appears clearly to have been represented in the most disagreeable point of view possible, as it is evident he never intended to make such an appeal, in the manner it has been held up to the public: His intentions evidently were, to lay before Congress his official proceedings since his arrival in America.

To judge of this business with candour, it is necessary to consider, what a great number of British agents and connections are now in America, studiously endeavouring to distress the only two governments in which remains the least trait of Freedom and Republicanism. These persons are desirous to promote jealousies and suspicions between us, as they know from these causes, *properly managed by their arts and intrigues*, the greatest evils will arise, as it respects our mutual happiness. The writings of *Pacificus*, (who is supposed to be an officer of our government) were calculated for this infamous purpose; he endeavoured to depreciate, in our estimation, the cause of France, and even urged us to *break our treaty* with that nation. Suppose we had followed this writer's advice, into what a disagreeable situation must our Country have been plunged? Had we adopted his measures, we must have ever been stigmatized as a people void of every principle of *gratitude*, and destitute of every sentiment which could give us a reputation, worthy a civilized nation.

What hopes can the Americans indulge, of promoting the happiness and prosperity of their country, detached from their connection with France? Look around the other European nations, and among the whole we cannot find a friend. On the contrary, they are declared enemies to every principle which we conceive essential to our welfare. Do they shew cordiality to our Republican Government, when they are now armed to overthrow that of France, which is founded on the same principles of freedom? Do they appear desirous to promote our commerce? Rather are they not embarrassing us in every port, wherein the American flag is displayed? As to the British nation, our vessels have become free plunder to almost every petty privateer whose commander pleases to exercise his inhumanity. The English ports are filled with Americans, subject to every imposition, which resentment and arrogance can dictate. Our frontiers are now deluged by the savages, carrying on their warfare under the immediate patronage of the English. Our frontiers are garrisoned by the British, though by a solemn treaty they were bound to surrender them many years ago, to the United States. —Our fur trade, by this breach of national integrity, is in a great degree annihilated, and our country involved in an expensive and destructive war.

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"Let us preserve our *reputation*, by performing our *engagements*; our *credit*, and our *friends* by GRATITUDE and KINDNESS, for we know not *how soon* we may again have OCCASION for all of them."

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PORTLAND (*Massachusetts*) Nov. 4.

The vessel mentioned in our last to have been towed into Salem bottom upwards, has since been found to be owned by Captain Vinal of the South shore; she was going from Kennebeck, and we hear that John Gardiner Esq. was certainly on board——One of the other vessels, which was lost, belonged to North-Yarmouth and was commanded by Capt. Prince—Every person on board this vessel, as well as the one from Kennebeck perished.

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Tuesday evening arrived, in this port, schooner —— Capt Runey, in 45 days from Havre de Grace. By this arrival, we have received a file of Paris papers, &c. up to the 22d of September. The late hour, however, last evening, at which we were favoured, by a French gentleman, with those papers, rendered it totally impossible to give a full translation from them, for this day. They are now in the hands of the translator, and copious extracts from them we shall give in our next.

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TOULON.

General Carteaux, at the head of 60,000 men, had taken a position on the heights which commanded the forts and port of Toulon; by his letter to the National Convention, he assures them, that the English fleet in Toulon, cannot escape from a total destruction, which he expected to accomplish in 48 hours, if they did not surrender.

THE PRUSSIAN ARMY,

Had received several checks near Alsace, where the Republican army have had the greatest success—The French Patriots have given a severe drubbing to the Spaniards, towards the Pyrennes, and that the Insurgents in Vendee are almost entirely destroyed.

THE CONSTITUTION

Has been accepted by ALL the Departments; 3 provinces only, viz. [illegible] were plenty throughout the republic.

regions of science, that the obligations of gratitude are perfectly compulsory like those of justice. Nor has moral philosophy as yet taught them, that it is a proof of delicate generosity to speak of measures under the professed idea of being generous, and yet, at the same time demand a specific retribution. It is presumed, that the humane Americans, who never inquired whether any of the unfortunate fugitives from one of the French islands were called aristocrats, but at once honored themselves and their country by their generous beneficence to them all, will never give cause *to doubt the professed motives* of their conduct, by urging their generosity as the basis of a legal demand. This, however, is a subject, sir, on which I leave you to *feel* sentiments which wounded delicacy cannot easily express.

ALFRED.

[*Inserted by Request.*]

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TOULON.

General Carteaux, at the head of 60,000 men, had taken a position on the heights which commanded the forts and port of Toulon; by his letter to the National Convention, he assures them, that the English fleet at Toulon, cannot escape from a total destruction, which he expected to accomplish in 48 hours, if they did not surrender.

THE PRUSSIAN ARMY,

Had received several checks near Alsace, where the Republican army have had the greatest success—The French Patriots had given a severe drubbing to the Spaniards, towards the Pyrennes, and that the Insurgents in Vendee are almost entirely destroyed.

THE CONSTITUTION

Had been accepted by ALL the Departments; and provisions of every sort were plenty throughout the Republic.

Upon the whole, the affairs of our Republican friends and allies appear much brighter than at any time since the Revolution—their enemies appear every where flying before them—their late internal commotions seem entirely quelled—their recruits are numerous beyond their most sanguine expectation—and we have no doubt, but that at this moment, unless peace is declared (which we fondly anticipate and hope soon to announce) there are no less than a million of men in arms in France; and that the combined forces have entirely quitted that Republic.

PROVIDENCE, November 16.

On Thursday, last Week, the Circuit Court of the United States was opened in this Town, before the Hon. Judge WILSON, and Judge MARCHANT.—The Throne of Grace was addressed, in a Prayer well adapted to the Occasion, by the Rev. JAMES WILSON, Co-Pastor of the Congregational Church on the West Side of the River; after which, his Honour the presiding Judge, delivered a pertinent and affecting Charge to the Grand Jury.

The Grand Jury have found Bills against Capt. Ross, and his Mate, on a Charge of having deliberately sunk a Bag, which the former commanded, near the Harbour of Newport, as mentioned some Time since.—Their Trials are to commence on Tuesday next.

RAY GREENE, Esq; was appointed to officiate at this Court as District Attorney, in the Place of WILLIAM CHANNING, Esq; deceased.

NEWPORT, November 19.

Unless prorogued to some other Time or Place, Congress must meet at Philadelphia, early in the next Month.

The President of the United States, as also Mr. Hamilton, Secretary of the Treasury, are arrived at Germantown, near Philadelphia.

An Attempt has been made to set Fire to the City of Charleston. The Governor of South-Carolina has issued a Proclamation offering a Reward of 5000 Dollars to the Person who would bring to Justice the Offender.

By a Letter from South-Carolina, we are informed, that there was a severe Snow Storm, in Charleston, on the 28th Ult.

Extract of a Letter from Philadelphia, dated Nov. 7.

"We have the Pleasure of being able to inform you, that Health is now fully restored to the long afflicted Citizens of Philadelphia; and Business begins to shew its welcome *Face* again. The Citizens are crouding in from all Quarters, without any Apprehensions of Danger."

By His EXCELLENCY

ARTHUR FENNER, Esq;

Governor, Captain General, and Commander in Chief, of the State of *Rhode Island* and *Providence Plantations*.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS it is the unquestionable Duty of all Men to confess their Sins against the CREATOR and PRESERVER of the UNIVERSE, humbly to implore His Mercy and Forgiveness, and to offer up to Him Praises and Thanksgivings, for the many unmerited Favours and Blessings He hath bestowed upon us:

AND WHEREAS the GENERAL ASSEMBLY, at their Session on the last *Monday* in *October* last, passed an Act, appointing THURSDAY, the Twenty-Eighth Instant, to be observed as a Day of PUBLIC PRAYER, PRAISE, and THANKSGIVING; and requested me to issue a Proclamation accordingly:

I HAVE, THEREFORE, thought fit to issue this Proclamation, to make known the said Act; and to call upon the Citizens of this State, to assemble themselves together on that Day, in their usual Places of public Worship, to offer up their united Prayers, Praises, and Thanksgivings, to ALMIGHTY GOD, agreeably to the Intention of the said Act. AND I DO earnestly recommend to them, to abstain from all servile Labour, and unnecessary Recreations, on that Day.

GIVEN under my Hand, and the Seal of the said State, this Fourth Day of November, *in the Year of our LORD, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety Three, and of* INDEPENDENCE *the Eighteenth.*

ARTHUR FENNER.

By his Excellency's Command,
HENRY WARD, *Sec'ry.*

GOD save the UNITED STATES of AMERICA.

Mr. BARBER,

LATELY it has been the practice when a piece has been published in your Mercury that has not suited the taste of some persons, for them to appear like Bedlamites, and by their scurrilous abuse prevent being published what may be pleasing to others.—I could wish, for the future, they might display their talents in a more liberal manner; and if what may be published hereafter should appear to them inconsistent, and cause them to take up their pens again, they may demonstrate to the public, by fair argument, the error.

CANDID.

CUSTOM-HOUSE,
District of Newport, Nov. 19

ENTERED, *from*

Sloops Peggy, Bliss, Good Intent, Briggs, Aurora, Brown, New-York; Diana, Lapham, New-Bedford; Sally, Barker, Cape-Francois; Industry, Birch, Boston; Ranger, Gladding, Wilmington; Schooner, Lucy, Peirce, Newbern; Sloop Abigail, Cranston, New-York.

CLEARED, *For*

Sloops Neptune, Arnold, Albany; Polly, Easton, Wilmington; Lydia, Coggeshall, Savannah; Dolphin, Cranston, Baltimore; Susannah, Phillips, Hannah, Crocker, Raven, Jenkins, Charleston; Warwick, Wescott, Aurora, Brown, Peggy, Bliss, New-York; Schooner Hannah, Bowen, Fame, Sanders, Norfolk; Brig Hannah, Almy, Africa; Sloop Sally, Vance, Norfolk.

To the PRINTER *of the* NEWPORT MERCURY.

SIR,

I HAVE long observed, with variety of emotions, the cogitations of some puny witlings, occasionally diffused in your paper; and have sometimes been highly gratified to see the pen of modest merit called forth to chastise the arrogance of such vile poetasters. It was my wish to have submitted to you last week a few observations on the letter under the signature of "a Citizen," in the Newport Mercury of the 5th instant; but a conscious inability, added to a conviction how many, instead of pursuing those avocations which nature alone designed them for, were continually pestering you with what they vainly fancied literary effusions, it fled my desire. I was however much pleased to see that heterogeneous production did not altogether escape the scourge it merited; and while I congratulate you on the acquisition of such a correspondent as "Spectator" in your last paper, I admire your conduct in opening the press to the free discussion of every fair question. Upon this consideration, and emboldened by example, I have ventured to address you on the subject introduced by "Hamlet;" answered by "A Citizen," and, in part, replied to by "Spectator."

The Citizen's letter, holding forth religious tenets, I must first observe, that though I avow an attempt to controvert the application of some of his doctrine, yet neither your correspondent, nor any other citizen, holds in more reverential awe the divine laws than I do; yet, when I conceive that the sacred bond of Christianity is enforced unnecessarily, or upon trifling occasions, I hold it a duty to defend such as are so chastised. If Hamlet's letter had contained immorality, it would have merited the *Citizen*'s invective, nay the rod of Puritanism. Let us consider *Hamlet*'s motive—view the language in which he conveys his ideas—and then determine whether he either meant profaneness to the Deity, insult to those in office, or an affront to your correspondent "Citizen."

This happy country, having dethroned oppression, its inhabitants in their career of prosperity, displayed a proportionate progress in mental acquisitions; and in order to cherish that pursuit, our legislature wisely abrogated those laws, the remnant of tyranny, which enveloped the mind in ignorance, that foolfool of oppression. Among those were the penal statutes against Theatrical representations, which, under proper regulations, have long been found by wiser heads, and perhaps as religious hearts as "Citizen's," to be an instructive and innocent amusement, and not vain, trifling, or idle as he affects. The inhabitants of Newport, emulating the example of their distant countrymen, wished to be acquainted with that refined amusement which is ever to be found on the Boards of well-managed Theatres. For this purpose the children of Thespis were invited, who not only afforded the expected gratification, but at a considerable expence fitted up a Theatre, agreed to pay a considerable yearly Rent, and by their united efforts, made an handsome offering at the shrine of Charity. Thus were they not only an amusement, but a public advantage to our Town. By them, was the work of great Shakespeare first presented, to a wondering and admiring audience. It however unfortunately happened, that, at the very time the Managers were enabled, as "Hamlet" observes, to present still more perfect performances, by a fortuitous engagement of more capital performers, that fatal, now contagion, spread its baneful effects among us. A fear, occasioned by a local distemper breaking out in a far distant city, from a variety of concomitant circumstances; not one of which could be attributed to the Town of Newport. Of this fact among others, "Hamlet" appears to have been aware, and being perhaps a man possessed of a mind capable of moralizing on "Yorick's skull," disappointed of his favourite amusement, by the Theatre being suddenly closed, he tells you in his short letter that the alarm, thereby set on foot, was "in his "opinion unwise and unnecessary, and that the remoteness of our situation, and the healthfulness of our climate, would prove an antidote against any contagious "distemper." This observation the Citizen interprets into a contempt of the Deity, and an insult to those in Office; and, among the virulent invective, with which he loads "Hamlet," he calls it "astonishing Presumption!"—The first charge has been refuted most completely by "Spectator;" and for the other, I must take leave to offer to the Citizen an observation on the effects of FEAR, of which he is certainly devoid, or he would hardly have addressed his lucubrations to you.—It is a recorded fact, that during the Plague in London, in 1666, numbers were killed by *fear* alone, which so agitated the mind, that the most trifling and foreign complaint to that fatal disorder, often proved mortal.

Having thus, I trust, shewn that "Hamlet" meant no offence to those in office, and it being proved by "Spectator" that he could not mean an insult to Divinity; it only remains for me to say, that I am confident, "Hamlet" (from the style of his letter) cares as little, whether he has offended "Citizen," as,

DETECTOR.

Newport, Nov. 13 1793.

To be SOLD,
CHEAP FOR CASH,

THREE Hundred Bushels of POTATOES, and a small Quantity of CHEESE.—Apply to

ISAAC SHEARMAN, jun.

Portsmouth, Nov. 18, 1793.

ALL Persons that have any Demands on the Estate of OLIVER SPENCER, late of Nantucket, deceased, or Accounts unsettled with said Estate, are desired to present them to *Jethro Starbuck*, jun. and those that are indebted to said Estate, are desired to make Payment to said Jethro Starbuck jun. who is qualified to give Discharge therefor, or to the Subscriber,

RICHARD MITCHELL, *Executor.*

Nantucket, 8th of 11th Month, 1793.

Those Persons that wish to exhibit any Accounts, or adjust them, are hereby notified, that the Subscriber is now in Newport, and resides at the House of JOSEPH ELLERY; —where he will attend this Business, during his Residence in this Town, and whence when he removes from Providence.

JETHRO STARBUCK jun.

Newport, 18th of 11th Month, 1793.

Bohea Tea,

A few Chests of excellent,

TO BE SOLD, BY

JOHN BOURS,

At the Sign of the GOLDEN EAGLE,

Where may be bought, a very handsome Assortment of GOODS, suitable for the Season, upon the very lowest Terms.

Newport, Nov. 18, 1793.

TO BE LET,
And entered immediately,

A HOUSE in Marlborough-Street, either furnished or unfurnished, as may best Suit the Tenant.—For further Particulars, inquire of the Printer.

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From St. John xx. 23. *Whose soever Sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever Sins ye retain, they are retained.*

Sold by the Rev. Mr. Usher, in Bristol, Mr. Thomas Lippitt, in Warwick, Mr. Martin Reid, in Narragansett, Mr. Burns, in Newport, and by the Printer hereof.

*** The above Discourse was composed with the View of being delivered before a *Convention* of the Protestant Episcopal Church in this State, and as such was intended to be *purely primitive* and *apostolic*, in its *Doctrine* and *Composition*—But, unfortunately, some who heard it delivered, were offended.—What just Right, any Christian, who believes the Scriptures need to be offended, the Author knows not:—He knows no Criterion, or Standard, for the Ascertainment of what are, or are not, Christian Doctrines, but the *Scriptures*—as *understood* and *explained* by the *first Founders* and *Promulgators* of Christianity.—To such Criterion the Author appeals, and not to any modern human Opinions.

Stephen Pierce,

HAS FOR SALE,

BUNTING and ready made COLOURS. Also, an Assortment of neat GUNLOCKS and BRASS FURNITURE, POWDER and SHOT.

Newport, October 21, 1793.

TO BE SOLD, BY

J. Richardson,

At the POST OFFICE,

AN Assortment of BOOKS and STATIONARY.

The Rhode-Island ALMANACK;
For the YEAR 1794.—By ELISHA THORNTON.
And a Variety of other ALMANACKS.

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Newport, Nov. 4, 1793.

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HATH FOR SALE AT HIS STORE;

BEST Petersburg clean
HEMP,
RUSSIA DUCK,
RAVENS DUCK,
SWEDISH BAR-IRON,
of the first Quality.

PHILADELPHIA,
RUSSIA, and } BAR-IRON;
SWEDES,
RUSSIA clean HEMP,
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CORDAGE, of all Sizes,
Coarse and fine SALT, of excellent Qualities.

FOR SALE, BY

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Upon the whole, the affairs of our Republican friends and allies appear much brighter than at any time since the Revolution—their enemies appear every where flying before them—their late internal commotions seem entirely quelled—their recruits are numerous beyond their most sanguine expectation—and we have no doubt, but that at this moment, unless peace is declared (which we fondly anticipate and hope soon to announce) there are no less than a million of men in arms in France; and that the combined forces have entirely quitted that Republic.

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Bohea Tea,

A few Chests of excellent,

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Christ. Champlin

HATH FOR SALE AT HIS STORE,

BEST Petersburg clean HEMP,
RUSSIA DUCK,
RAVENS DUCK,
SWEDISH BAR-IRON,
of the first Quality.

PHILADELPHIA, RUSSIA, and SWEDES, } BAR-IRON;
RUSSIA clean HEMP,
RUSSIA and RAVENS DUCK, and CORDAGE, of all Sizes,
Coarse and fine SALT, of excellent Qualities.

FOR SALE, BY

Gibbs & Channing.

Newport, September 16, 1793.

THE SEASONS of LIFE.

IN ſportive *Youth*, when fancy ſtrews the way,
And with ſoft dreams of bliſs beguiles our care;
Not vernal flowers can half thoſe ſcenes diſplay,
Nor SPRING's delights with thoſe of youth compare.

To *manhood* next, with eager haſte, we run,
And curſe the tardy hours, that check our flight—
But there we find that e'en a SUMMER's ſun,
Reſigns his ſplendor to the gloom of night.

Hope leads us on with many a flattering call,
Till on *life's utmoſt verge* we trembling ſtand;
Still ſighing—wiſhing—longing—till we fall,
Like fruit in AUTUMN to the gatherer's hand.

Then ſhall commence an ever blooming SPRING;
Then SUMMER's ſuns ſhall ſet to riſe no more;
And laviſh AUTUMN all her treaſures bring
To deck the ſcene, when Life's bleak WINTER's o'er.

HAYLEY.

From a late London Paper.

ADVERTISEMENT EXTRAORDINARY.

LOST OR MISLED.

A FLEET of Men of War, from the North, which were expected in a ſouthern latitude ſome months ſince!

There being a body of twelve thouſand men on board, which at preſent is greatly wanted—whoever will give information in what creek, bay or harbour the ſaid fleet lies, ſhall, on its being found, receive a reward of 10,000 roubles, and 20 000 peaſants, by applying to the proper perſons either in Harley ſtreet or Downing-ſtreet.

P. S. If the fleet be not found within a month, the diſcovery will be of no uſe!

N. B. It was laſt ſeen catching ſprats off the coaſt of Sweden.

The London Reviewers upon a Sermon preached on a late Faſt Day, at Lathbury (England.)

"IT is aſtoniſhing to obſerve, with what eaſy confidence men take upon them to denounce the vengeance of heaven upon one another. The calamities which attend the French revolution, without ſtaying to inquire how large a portion of them may be accounted for in a way, which will throw the guilt upon other heads, are in this diſcourſe boldly pronounced to be the viſitation of heaven; and the crimes and iniquities of France are ſaid to have brought down upon her the vengeance both of God and man. Britons are called upon to ſupport with vigor this war of vengeance, and exhorted to avert the judgments, which are hanging over their own heads, by repentance and reformation."

A moſt excellent Aſſortment of

FALL GOODS,

Juſt received, and now ſelling

Very Cheap for CASH, by

Caleb Green,

At his Store, Three or Four Doors Northward of the New Church Lane.

Newport, October 28, 1793.

Thomas Green *and* Son,

At the Sign of the BUCK, near the RED MARKET, have juſt opened

A large ASSORTMENT of

GOODS,

Suitable for the Seaſon,

Which they are determined to diſpoſe of at the very loweſt Rate.

Newport, October 26, 1793.

TO BE SOLD, BY

Benjamin Brenton,

At his STORE, oppoſite SAMUEL FOWLER, *Eſq;*

CHEAP FOR CASH only,

A Variety of Engliſh GOODS,

juſt imported.—Likewiſe, choice LISBON, SHERRY, MADEIRA, and MALAGA WINES, by the Caſk or Gallon; and STARCH by the Box.

N. B. Any young Man, that can be well recommended, and has been uſed to taking Care of CATTLE, and is willing to go to the Iſland of Jamaica upon that Buſineſs only, he will by applying to the above Store, meet with proper Encouragement.

Newport, Nov. 4, 1793.

CLARKE & HAMMOND

Have on Hand ſundry Articles, which they will ſell on the very loweſt Terms, by Wholeſale and Retail, (many of which lower than the firſt Coſt) for Caſh, viz.

WEST-INDIA and N. E. Rum,
Brandy and Geneva,
Brown and Loaf Sugar,
Excellent Bohea Tea,
Chocolate and Coffee,
Ginger,
Pimento,
Pepper,
Nutmegs and Raiſins,
Flour and Ship Bread,
Beef and Pork,
Metal Tea-Pots,
An Aſſortment of Glaſs Ware,
Farmers' Shovels, Hoes, and Scythes,
Cotton and Wool Cards,
Bellows,
Bruſhes,
Nail Hammers,
Sheep-Shears,
Writing and Wrapping Paper,
Hard Soap,
White Lead ground in Oil,
Lignumvitæ Mortars,
Spermaceti Candles,
Grindſtones,
Cotton Wool by the Bail,
Excellent Salt for the Fiſhery,
Anchors and Cordage of all Sizes,
Iron Caboooſes,
Kitchen Stoves,
Franklin Ditto for Fire Places,
Cloſe Ditto for Shops,
Philadelphia refined and Swedes Bar-Iron,
Iron Rods for Nails and Spikes,
Sheet-Iron,
A general Aſſortment of Hollow Ware,
20, 10, 8, 6, 4, 3d. Nails,
6 by 8 and 7 by 9 Window Glaſs,
Cod-Hooks,
Bar-Lead,
Shot and Powder,
Brimſtone,
Copperas,
Alum,
Redwood,
Logwood,
Faſtick and Lignumvitæ,
Frying Pans,
Warming Pans,
Shovels and Tongs,
Flat-Irons,
Braſs Candleſticks,
Braſs Kettles,
Steelyards,
Scale-Beams,
Cheſt and Padlocks,
Candle Snuffers,
Penknives,
Knives and Forks, &c. &c. &c.

A General Aſſortment of Cotton, Woollen and Linen Piece Goods—Alſo, Pine Timber, Boards, Clapboards, Shingles and Laths.

They will receive Goods for Sale, on Commiſſion, and advance Money on the Receipt thereof.

All Perſons having Accounts open with the ſaid CLARKE & HAMMOND, are deſired to call and cloſe the ſame, by Cash or otherwiſe.

Joſeph Mumford,

NEAR THE RED MARKET,

Makes and Sells, as cheap as can be purchaſed in any State in the Union,

Sheet-Iron Stove Pipe---Convenient Sheet-Iron Stoves for Shops or Veſſels Cabins—Sheet-Iron Dripping Pans—and Tin Ware of all Kinds, by Wholeſale and Retail.

HE HAS LIKEWISE FOR SALE,

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Orders from the Country will be carefully attended to and the ſmalleſt Favours gratefully acknowledged.

He gives Caſh for Old Pewter, Lead, Braſs, and Copper.

Newport, October 14, 1793.

Wanted, an APPRENTICE,

At the CHAISE MAKING BUSINESS,

AN active LAD, of about 14 or 15 Years of Age.——One from the Country would be preferred.—— Apply to

JOHN STRATTON.

Newport, Nov. 11, 1793.

STOLEN, about the firſt of October, from the South Side of the Long-Wharf, about 25 fathom of 16 Inch CABLE.—Whoever will give Information to the Subſcriber, of the Thief or Thieves, ſo that the above Cable may be recovered, ſhall receive SIXTEEN DOLLARS Reward.

JOHN WANTON,

Newport, Nov. 5, 1793.

To be LET,

THE Weſt End of the HOUSE, next below the Brick Market, a BAKE-HOUSE, GARDEN, and Two STORES on the Wharf.—Alſo a SHOP in Thames-Street.—For Particulars, inquire of WALTER EASTON.

Newport, Nov. 4, 1793.

TO BE SOLD, BY

Sheffield Attwood,

BROKER, on the POINT,

WEST-INDIA and New England Rum, by the Hogſhead or Barrel,
Geneva, by the Pipe, Hogſhead, Barrel, or Caſe,
Molaſſes, by the Hogſhead, or Barrel,
Brown Sugar, by the Hogſhead or Barrel,
Ravens Duck, by the Bolt,
Clean Hemp, and Cordage, of all Sizes.

Any Perſon that may want to purchaſe a MOST BOAT, of any Dimenſion, may be ſupplied by him on the ſhorteſt Notice.

A L S O,

A ſmall FARM, Diſtance from this Town about Six Miles, with a good Dwelling Houſe, Barn and Two Orchards, with other Neceſſaries thereon, which he will ſell cheap for the Caſh.

There is a ſmall Quantity of LAND to be ſold, adjoining ſaid Farm, which will make it convenient for any Purchaſer.

L I K E W I S E,

Two good Dwelling-Houſes, ſituated in different Parts of Newport, which he will ſell cheap for Caſh.

He ſtill continues to carry on the BAKING Buſineſs, in all its Branches.—And has now a ſmall Quantity of SHIP BREAD on Hand, which he will ſell as cheap as any imported, of equal Quality.

*** He gives the higheſt Price for Old GOLD and SILVER.

Newport, Sept. 26, 1793.

Gibbs & Channing

HAVE JUST OPENED,

From IRELAND,

A Conſignment of 7-8 and 4-4 *IRISH LINENS.*

Which they will ſell on very low Terms, for CASH, by the PACKAGE or PIECE.

Newport, Nov. 11, 1793.

We the Subſcribers being ap-

pointed, by the Hon. Town-Council of Tiverton, Commiſſioners to receive and examine the Claims againſt the Eſtate of BENJAMIN DURFEE, jun. of ſaid Tiverton, deceaſed, repreſented inſolvent.——We hereby give Notice, that we ſhall meet for that Purpoſe at the Houſe of *James Pierce*, Innholder, in ſaid Tiverton, on Saturday the 23d Inſtant, and on the Third Saturday of each ſucceeding Month, from Ten o'Clock, A. M. to Four o'Clock, P. M. for Six Months, being the Time allowed for that Purpoſe.

JOSEPH DURFEE,
THOMAS DURFEE,
GODFREY PERRY,
} *Commiſſioners.*

Tiverton, Nov. 8, 1793.

We the Subſcribers being ap-

pointed by the Hon. Town Council of Newport, Commiſſioners to receive and examine the Claims of the Creditors to the Eſtate of Col. JOHN TOPHAM, late of ſaid Newport, deceaſed, repreſented inſolvent, and Six Months being allowed, do hereby give Notice thereof to the ſaid Creditors, that they may exhibit their Claims to either of us, at our Dwellings, within the aboveſaid Time.

BENJAMIN SAYER,
JOHN L. BOSS.

All indebted to ſaid Eſtate are requeſted to make immediate Payment to

ANN TOPHAM, *Adminiſtratrix.*

Newport, Nov. 4, 1793

THE Subſcribers being appointed by the Honorable Town Council of Newport, Commiſſioners to receive and examine the Claims of the Creditors againſt the Eſtate of JOSEPH CARD, late of ſaid Newport, deceaſed, repreſented inſolvent, and Six Months being allowed for that Purpoſe, do hereby notify all Perſons having any juſt Demands againſt ſaid Eſtate, that they exhibit the ſame to either of us, at our reſpective Dwellings, within the aboveſaid Time.

ELISHA LAWTON,
SAMUEL VINSON.

Newport, Nov. 4, 1793.

WE the Subſcribers being appointed by the Worſhipful Town-Council, of Tiverton, Commiſſioners to receive and examine the Claims of the Creditors to the Eſtate of JONATHAN DEVOL, jun. late of Tiverton, Yeoman, deceaſed, repreſented inſolvent, and Six Months being allowed, from the Date hereof; all Perſons having any Demands on ſaid Eſtate, are requeſted to bring them in, at JOHN MANCHESTER's, Innholder, in ſaid Tiverton, on the laſt Saturdays in November, January, and March, where Attendance will be given, from One o'Clock, P. M. until Five.

REDFORD DENNIS,
SAMUEL FABER,
} *Commiſſioners.*

All Perſons indebted to ſaid Eſtate, are deſired to make immediate Payment, to

JACOB FABER, *Adminiſtrator.*

Tiverton, Oct. 7, 1793.

ALL Perſons indebted to the Eſtate of CHARLES HANDY, late of Newport, Merchant, deceaſed, are hereby called upon, to make immediate Settlement and Payment; and any Perſons who have Accounts or Demands againſt ſaid Eſtate, are equally called upon, to apply for Settlement and Payment, if Balances ſhould be found due to them.

JOHN HANDY,
LEVIN HANDY,
WILLIAM HANDY,
THOMAS HANDY,
STEPHEN DEBLOIS,
} *Executors.*

Newport August 5, 1793.

WE the Subſcribers, being appointed by the Worſhipful Town Council of Newport Commiſſioners to receive and examine the Claims of the Creditors to the Eſtate of WALTER WICKHAM, late of Newport, Gentleman, deceaſed, repreſented inſolvent. All Perſons having any Demands on ſaid Eſtate, muſt if they think fit, bring in their Claims to us, at our reſpective Dwellings.

ROBERT TAYLOR,
EDWARD THURSTON.

And all Perſons indebted to ſaid Eſtate, are requeſted to make immediate Payment, to

JOHN FAXON, *Adminiſtrator.*

Newport, Oct. 28, 1793.

THE SEASONS OF LIFE.

IN ſportive *Youth*, when fancy ſtrews the way,
And with ſoft dreams of bliſs beguiles our care;
Not vernal flowers can half thoſe ſcenes diſplay,
Nor SPRING's delights with thoſe of youth compare.

To *manhood* next, with eager haſte, we run,
And curſe the tardy hours, that check our flight—
But there we find that e'en a SUMMER's ſun,
Reſigns his ſplendor to the gloom of night.

Hope leads us on with many a flattering call,
Till on *life's utmoſt verge* we trembling ſtand;
Still ſighing—wiſhing—longing—till we fall,
Like fruit in AUTUMN to the gatherer's hand.

Then ſhall commence an ever blooming SPRING;
Then SUMMER's ſuns ſhall ſet to riſe no more;
And laviſh AUTUMN all her treaſures bring
To deck the ſcene, when Life's bleak WINTER's o'er.

HAYLEY.

From a late London Paper.

ADVERTISEMENT EXTRAORDINARY.

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A FLEET of Men of War, from the North, which were expected in a ſouthern latitude ſome months ſince!

There being a body of twelve thouſand men on board, which at preſent is greatly wanted—whoever will give information in what creek, bay or harbour the ſaid fleet lies, ſhall, on its being found, receive a reward of 10,000 roubles, and 20,000 peaſants, by applying to the proper perſons either in Harley ſtreet or Downing-ſtreet.

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HAVE FOR SALE,

A large Aſſortment of ſeaſonable Goods.

—Alſo a good Aſſortment of Luteſtrings and Satins, by Wholeſale and Retail.

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REDFORD DENNIS,
LEMUEL TABER, } *Commiſſioners.*

All Perſons indebted to ſaid Eſtate, are deſired to make immediate Payment, to

JACOB TABER, *Adminiſtrator.*

Tiverton, Oct. 7, 1793.

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JOHN WANTON.

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Clean Hemp, and Cordage, of all Sizes.

Any Perſon that may want to purchaſe a MOSS BOAT, of any Dimenſion, may be ſupplied by him on the ſhorteſt Notice.

ALSO,

A ſmall FARM, Diſtance from this Town about Six Miles, with a good Dwelling Houſe, Barn and Two Orchards, with other Neceſſaries thereon, which he will ſell cheap for the Caſh.

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Newport, Sept. 26, 1793.

ALL Perſons indebted to the Eſtate of CHARLES HANDY, late of Newport, Merchant, deceaſed, are hereby called upon, to make immediate Settlement and Payment; and any Perſons who have Accounts or Demands againſt ſaid Eſtate, are equally called upon, to apply for Settlement and Payment, if Balances ſhould be found due to them.

JOHN HANDY,
LEVIN HANDY,
WILLIAM HANDY,
THOMAS HANDY,
STEPHEN DEBLOIS, } *Executors.*

Newport Auguſt 5, 1793.

WE the Subſcribers, being appointed by the Worſhipful Town Council of Newport, Commiſſioners to receive and examine the Claims of the Creditors to the Eſtate of WALTER WIGNERON, Late of Newport, Gentleman, deceaſed, repreſented inſolvent. All Perſons having any Demands on ſaid Eſtate, may if they think fit, bring in their Claims to us, at our reſpective Dwellings.

ROBERT TAYLOR,
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